

Wayne Allard

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ALLARD INTRODUCES ENDANGERED FISH RECOVERY BILL FOR THE UPPER COLORADO RIVER SAYS BILL WILL ALLOW BUREAU OF RECLAMATION TO PROVIDE MONEY FOR ENDANGERED FISH RECOVERY PROGRAMS

Washington, D.C. – U.S. Senator Wayne Allard (R-CO) today introduced legislation that would allow the Bureau of Reclamation to provide cost sharing for the endangered fish recovery implementation program on the Upper Colorado River and San Juan River Basins. The bill has the support environmental groups, water users and the state of Colorado.

“This legislation is meant to be a pro-active piece of legislation,” Allard said. “The goal is to ensure a long-term recovery program for endangered fish currently in the river and allow Coloradans greater flexibility to develop their full allotment of the Colorado River.”

The legislation is identical to H.R. 2348, which has been introduced by Utah Representative Jim Hansen, and Colorado Representatives Scott McInnis, Mark Udall, Bob Schaffer, and Tom Tancredo. Allard said he decided to introduce the bill after several meetings with environmental groups, water users and officials from the state of Colorado.

“The success of the Recovery Program depends on the federal government to provide sufficient funds to implement the program,” Allard said. “Without the federal government’s commitment to help fund the program within an established time line, future development of water will be in jeopardy.”

“This legislation by no means reflects consensus, but I believe it sure is a good start to one,” added Allard. “I believe we have a ‘win-win’ idea. We can protect the endangered fish while at the same time protecting Colorado’s water.”

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